

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 31 without prejudice or disclaimer, add claims 72-79, and amend claims 30 and 32 as follows:

Claims 1-17 (Cancelled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A security item comprising at least one security element having at least one photoluminescent segment with a linearly polarized photoluminescence, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 5 or more in emission.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 18, wherein the security element is in a form selected from a group consisting of fibers, threads, strips, films, sheets, layers, tapes, plates, disks, chips and/or combinations thereof.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The security item of claims 18 or 19, wherein apart from the security element, the security item consists mainly of paper.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The security item of claims 18 or 19, wherein apart from the security element, the security item contains one or more synthetic polymers.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 18, wherein the security element can be excited to luminescence by irradiation with electromagnetic radiation at a wavelength between 200 and 400 nm.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 18, wherein the security element includes at least one carrier polymer and one luminescent dye.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 23, wherein the luminescent dye is at least one partially conjugated polymer.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 23, wherein the luminescent dye is a poly-*p*-phenylene-ethynylene derivative.

Claims 26-28 (Cancelled).

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 18, wherein the security item is in a form selected from a group consisting of bank notes, checks, stocks, bonds, securities, identification cards, passports, drivers licenses, admission tickets, stamps, bank cards and credit cards.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A security item comprising at least one security element having at least one photoluminescent segment with a linearly polarized absorption, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 5 or more in absorption.

Claim 31 (Canceled).

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): A security item comprising at least one security element having at least one photoluminescent segment with a linearly polarized absorption ~~The security item of claim 30~~, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 10 or more in absorption.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 30, wherein the security element is in a form selected from a group consisting of fibers, threads, strips, films, sheets, layers, tapes, plates, disks, chips and/or combinations thereof.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): The security item of claims 30 or 33, wherein apart from the security element, the security item consists mainly of paper.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): The security item of claims 30 or 33, wherein apart from the security element, the security item contains one or more synthetic polymers.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 30, wherein the security element can be excited to luminescence by irradiation with electromagnetic radiation at a wavelength between 200 and 400 nm.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 30, wherein the security element includes at least one carrier polymer and one luminescent dye.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 37, wherein the luminescent dye is at least one partially conjugated polymer.

Claim 39 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 37, wherein the luminescent dye is a poly-*p*-phenylene-ethynylene derivative.

Claims 40-42 (Cancelled).

Claim 43 (Previously Presented): The security item of claim 30, wherein the security item is in a form selected from a group consisting of bank notes, checks, stocks, bonds, securities, identification cards, passports, drivers licenses, admission tickets, stamps, bank cards and credit cards.

Claim 44 (Withdrawn): A method of producing a security item according to claim 18, comprising the step of:

providing a security item with a security element having at least one photoluminescent segment with linearly polarized luminescence, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 5 or more in emission.

Claim 45 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:

forming the security element from a group consisting of fibers, threads, strips, films, sheets, layers, tapes, plates, disks, chips and/or combinations thereof.

Claim 46 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claims 44 or 45, further comprising the step of:

forming the security item, apart from the security element, mainly from paper.

Claim 47 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claims 44 or 45, further comprising the step of:

forming the security item, apart from the security element, from one or more synthetic polymers.

Claim 48 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:

exciting the security element to luminescence by irradiation with electromagnetic radiation at a wavelength between 200 and 400 nm.

Claim 49 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:

including at least one carrier polymer and one luminescent dye in the security element.

Claim 50 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 49, wherein the luminescent dye is at least one partially conjugated polymer.

Claim 51 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 49, wherein the luminescent dye is a poly-*p*-phenylene-ethynylene derivative.

Claim 52 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 44, wherein counterfeiting of the security item is made difficult or impossible.

Claim 53 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:

identifying the authenticity and/or validity of the security item.

Claim 54 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:

permitting the identification of the security item.

Claim 55 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 44, further comprising the step of:

forming the security item from a group consisting of bank notes, checks, stocks, bonds, securities, identification cards, passports, drivers licenses, admission tickets, stamps, bank cards and credit cards.

Claim 56 (Withdrawn): A method of producing a security item according to claim 30, comprising the step of:

providing an object with a security element having at least one photoluminescent segment with a linearly polarized absorption.

Claim 57 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 56, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 5 or more in absorption.

Claim 58 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 56, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 10 or more in absorption.

Claim 59 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of:

forming the security element from a group consisting of fibers, threads, strips, films, sheets, layers, tapes, plates, disks, chips and/or combinations thereof.

Claim 60 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claims 56 or 59, further comprising the step of:

forming the security item, apart from the security element, mainly from paper.

Claim 61 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claims 56 or 59, further comprising the step of:

forming the security item, apart from the security element, from one or more synthetic polymers.

Claim 62 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of:

exciting the security element to luminescence by irradiation with electromagnetic radiation at a wavelength between 200 and 400 nm.

Claim 63 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of:

including at least one carrier polymer and one luminescent dye in the security element.

Claim 64 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 63, wherein the luminescent dye is at least one partially conjugated polymer.

Claim 65 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 63, wherein the luminescent dye is a poly-*p*-phenylene-ethynylene derivative.

Claim 66 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 56, wherein counterfeiting of the security item is made difficult or impossible.

Claim 67 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of:

identifying the authenticity and/or validity of the security item.

Claim 68 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of:

permitting the identification of the security item.

Claim 69 (Withdrawn): The method of producing a security item of claim 56, further comprising the step of:

forming the security item from a group consisting of bank notes, checks, stocks, bonds, securities, identification cards, passports, drivers licenses, admission tickets, stamps, bank cards and credit cards.

Claim 70 (Withdrawn): A security item according to claim 30, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 2 or more in absorption.

Claim 71 (Withdrawn): A method of producing a security item of claim 56, wherein the segment has a dichroic ratio of 2 or more in absorption.

Claim 72 (New): The security item of claim 32, wherein the security element is in a form selected from a group consisting of fibers, threads, strips, films, sheets, layers, tapes, plates, disks, chips and/or combinations thereof.

Claim 73 (New): The security item of claims 32 or 72, wherein apart from the security element, the security item consists mainly of paper.

Claim 74 (New): The security item of claims 32 or 72, wherein apart from the security element, the security item contains one or more synthetic polymers.

Claim 75 (New): The security item of claim 32, wherein the security element can be excited to luminescence by irradiation with electromagnetic radiation at a wavelength between 200 and 400 nm.

Claim 76 (New): The security item of claim 32, wherein the security element includes at least one carrier polymer and one luminescent dye.

Claim 77 (New): The security item of claim 76, wherein the luminescent dye is at least one partially conjugated polymer.

Claim 78 (New): The security item of claim 76, wherein the luminescent dye is a poly-*p*-phenylene-ethynylene derivative.

Claim 79 (New): The security item of claim 32, wherein the security item is in a form selected from a group consisting of bank notes, checks, stocks, bonds, securities, identification cards, passports, drivers licenses, admission tickets, stamps, bank cards and credit cards.